Ladder to the Sky

by E. V. INGRAHAM

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PRAYER, ITS PRACTICE AND ITS ANSWER; THE SILENCE; MAGIC FORMULA OF SUCCESS

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DEVORSS & CO., *Publishers*
843 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE
LOS ANGELES 14, CALIFORNIA

Preface

IN OFFERING THIS interpretation of the last Book of the Bible, we are giving to the sincere student of Spiritual Law what we have found to be the key to progress. The progress of its writing was halted many times for every step had to stand the test of actual experience. Only when each step had been lived were we able to pass it on to others. With greatest confidence, we say that in its entirety it is tried and true and is fraught with endless blessings.

We have not tried to develop each thought to its conclusion for that would have required volumes. The lessons only bring the student to the threshold of the path of life. Each student who reads, and hears, and keeps the plan of Revelation will finish the book in his own life. In the last analysis, that is what the book of life is. What you live is what you write in your book.

The race, so to speak, like a field of grain comes to ripeness. We are now in such a time and God "no longer holds his peace." He must balance accounts with His creation, reaping the fruits of the seed He has planted. This seed was Christ. As like produces like, the ultimate harvest must be the fulness of Christ in every ripened soul and this fruition is that "which must shortly come to pass." In this fruition, there are two paths open to you; one of *election* and one of *compulsion*.

The path of *election* is outlined in the Book of Revelation beginning at Chapter 1, Verse 1 through Chapter 8, Verse 1; the path of *compulsion,* from the second Verse of the Eighth Chapter through the Twentieth Chapter. From Chapter 21 to the close of the Book is the goal toward which we, as a race, are moving. In this series, we shall concern ourselves only with the path of *election* as "this is the straight and narrow way." It is the Christ way. "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve"!

The "Angel" referred to here is the "Angel of His Presence," that Jesus Christ Self of *every* man. This must be clearly understood by you if you are to profit by this study for this "Angel"

is the source of all revelation. It is the connecting link between God and man. It stands in exactly the same relationship as an idea between the mind and the form in which the idea is expressed.

Every form has what science calls "a magnetic field" around it. This magnetic field is a free energy attached to and circulating around the form. The form is really a more condensed phase of this same field of free energy. It is somewhat like the flame which burns from and surrounds the wick of a candle.

In the living forms of nature, this magnetic field is a living energy. It has the element of life within it and differs from the magnetic field around inert form just as a bar of steel differs from a living plant. The higher the form, the more radiant this magnetic field.

The magnetic field is the immediate source of the life and substance of the form and were they separated, the form would die or disintegrate. It is the very essence from which the form is derived.

Man, the highest form, has the most radiant magnetic field and this field is the personal embodiment of God – the "Angel of His

Presence." It is the immediate source of man's being and is the connecting link between God and man. It is the embodiment of the "fulness of the Godhead" and from this "flame Self," you may draw all knowledge, power, life, love and supply. This is the "Father within," the "Lord *your* God," in whom you live and move and have your being.

This "Angel of His Presence" is often referred to as the "Spiritual I Am" but regardless of the name, it refers to the personal embodiment of the Universal God with and in you. It cannot be separated from you for it is your immediate sustenance. It is above you as indicated by rank; it cannot be above you in the sense of altitude. It is the *within* of you in that it is the inner, or basic fact of your being.

> *Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.* REV. 1:2

The Jesus Christ of history was a testimony of this Incarnate Word of God. He brought life and immortality to light as the Divine reality and counterpart of yourself.

> *Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.* REV. 1:3

There are three degrees of benefit to be derived by you as you give yourself to the consideration of the Book. *To read* the instruction is to, in some degree, link yourself with the true processes of life. *To hear,* or comprehend, the "words of this prophecy" establishes a more vital contact. But to *"keep,"* or make use of the facts revealed, you naturally receive the greatest benefit. Your mind is always changed to some extent by *reading* anything; it is changed more by *understanding;* a complete change is made by *living* a thing understood.

> *John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne.* REV. 1:4

> *Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.* REV. 5:12

The Seven Churches are the seven steps taken by you in your progress into illumination. They are taken only as you learn and conform to the practices of pure worship in each successive step. *The Seven Spirits* are the release of Spiritual Powers as each step is attained successfully. They are the gifts of the Spirit for each degree of progress. These Spirits are enumerated in Chapter 5, Verse 12 as *Power, Riches, Wisdom, Strength, Honor, Glory* and *Blessing.* This outlines the order in which your Spiritual Powers are released in your progress.

> *And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the firstbegotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our own sins in his own blood.* REV. 1:5

Jesus Christ is here again refered to as the "witness" and "first born of the dead," setting forth that He was the "revealer," or "unveiler," of the great mystery of life, the mystery to which Paul refers as "Christ in you the hope of Glory." The blood of Christ is the "Holy Spirit," or the Seven Spirits which compose the great stream of life flowing out from the Throne

of God. Blood is the circulating medium in the nature of any living thing. In the body, it is the red blood; in the mind, it is the movement in the process of thinking, but the blood of the Spiritual man is the Inspiration or Breath of God. It is this "blood" that Jesus released into the world, that men through it might be saved.

> *And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.* REV. 1:6

There are three designations of rank scattered through the Scriptures but only two in this paragraph. These two are reversed in order. Christ made us *Prophets, Priests* and *Kings* unto God. Sometimes, Prince is substituted for Priest. These are three degrees designating the Spiritual progress made by yourself. A *Prophet* of God is one who begins to perceive the manner and purpose of Divine action in his own being and in the world. He is not a prophet of doom, but he perceives the way of righteousness. He *sees* what the Father is doing. A *Priest* is one who lives and expresses the radiance of God power. He does not preach

the doctrines of men but literally preaches the Gospel of God. He casts the God-spell wherever he speaks. A Spiritual *King* is one who has attained to mastery. He is a ruler in the Kingdom of Spiritual things. He has power over sin, sickness, poverty and death. He has overcome the world, the flesh and the devil.

> *Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him; and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.* REV. 1:7

When Christ again speaks in the earth, there will be no uncertainty about it. It will be apparent to everyone for "every eye shall see him." There can be no opportunity for deception in true Spiritual things. If you have to take the word of someone else, you have not touched Spirituality. It puts to rout "all the kindred of the earth." Everything that is of the doctrine of man will be consumed in right knowledge.

> *I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.* REV. 1:8

The inevitable will be fulfilled. The "Perfect Man," the Christ, which was in the beginning, which is the only enduring phase of present man must, by the natural order of things, become the manifest man. Happy are you who choose to travel the path of *election* and surrender yourself to the inevitable.

> *I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the Kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.* REV. 1:9

John experienced our tribulation and Christ was tempted as we. But John and Christ both attained to their Spiritual estate and gave us the plan by which we too may arrive. This path is in the letters to the Seven Churches and the breaking of the Seven Seals.

Spiritual progress begins on the Isle of Patmos which is a place of exile or renunciation. At a certain point in life, you come to your Spiritual adolescence. A boy growing to manhood either gives up willingly his boyish ways and possessions, or they are taken from him by the force of circumstances. So it is in your

spiritual progress. You must give up the toys of your manhood for the tools of your Spiritual estate. You must "sell all you have and give to the poor." In the boy, the man is poor, or undeveloped. This does not mean that you have to impoverish yourself materially to become Spiritual. It does mean that as the boy gave up his toys to learn the use of manly things, so must you let go of your possessions that you may learn to use your Spiritual Powers. You no longer see them as the all important things in life, but as a means of expressing your larger nature. The tools of the Spiritual man are Spiritual forces instead of material forms. You must let go the sense of dependence upon forms before you can learn to rely upon these forces.

Patmos is rocky and barren; so is your life as you go through the change from sense to Spiritual Consciousness. The Island runs north and south and at the center narrows down to an isthmus. Here are the city and the harbor directly facing the East and the open sea. Progress from this point is by moving directly at right angles. You leave that which has seemed tangible and gave promise of great rewards, but which has been disappointing and

has given only pain and dissatisfaction. Now you move out into that great Sea of the Infinite. It has seemed so intangible, yet it holds the key to all that your heart calls for. It is like a child leaving its blocks with their painted figures and moving out into a world of knowledge of the values back of the figures. This is the trial of Faith. Here, you throw yourself into the great sea of life – sink or swim – you must rely upon the Intelligence of God to guide you, the Strength of God to sustain you, the Power of God to heal you and the Abundance of God to supply you. This is not a negative trust. You have to swim in the ocean. You must be exceedingly quiet at times to catch the trend of the tides of the Infinite. What the Father is doing is always the first consideration from here on. "I do likewise" is always the fact which motivates all that you think, say and do. Here you develop the sense that the "winds of Heaven" are in your favor. You have an Infinite backing and this reassurance restores your soul.

Patmos, desolation, is always an indication that you need direction. You are off the track or at an abrupt turn in the road. You are here

"for the Word of God," to receive Divine direction. Be still, be unconcerned about what you have lost, left behind, what you need or desire. Find your Divine direction, follow it and the things shall be added.

> *I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet.* REV. 1:10

The first sense of Spiritual guidance is like a trumpet. It brings forth a thrill of power, an exaltation of Spirit greater than any sound of martial music. This is the call to "go forward."

> *Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.* REV. 1:11

Only what you "see" enters into consciousness. What flows through your consciousness is the written story of your life. The Book in which you write is your own Book of Life, your unfolding consciousness. Here, you are directed

to write in your Book what you may "see," or comprehend, as spoken to you by the Voice of the Jesus Christ Self. Outwardly, you are only a capacity, a channel, a conveyor, or a blank book. You become the embodiment of what you allow to flow through your nature. The Book becomes what you write in it. The Seven Spirits must be released through the seven capacities of your nature. The whole stream of life must surge through you. This is the Holy Spirit – the *Power, Riches, Wisdom, Strength, Honor, Glory* and *Blessing* of God Himself.

The balance of this Chapter will unfold as we proceed with the lessons which follow in connection with the Letters and the Seals. However, before we proceed, we must find the key that is to unlock the doors to your progress. This is spoken of in Verse 18 as the "keys of hell and of death."

> *I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.* REV. 1:18

The key to death is the key to life. What you die to, give up, surrender, is the way to new

things. But surrender is not the key itself. To "reckon yourself dead" is not enough. There is life to follow. The key to hell has to do with the former procedure that has sealed you from your Divine estate. All of that has now to be burned or purified out of your nature.

For the mystery of these keys, we must go ahead to Chapter 5, Verse 6.

> *And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.* REV. 5:6

The seven horns and seven eyes of the Lamb are the keys. The horns are symbolical of the manner in which you have "sealed" yourself from Divine Realization. The seven eyes are the keys to breaking these seals and are therefore death to that which has hidden life from you. Perhaps, you can understand it better by putting it in modern slang. To "horn" your way into the world, you isolate yourself from the law that created the world. To try to gain by force what can only be gained by law is to lose both

the law and its fruits. This is utter desolation. This is hell. "Seeing" your way into the processes of the law is quite another thing. It is death to ignorance and impotence and their kind. It breaks that which has sealed you from your Divine estate and opens the flood gates of life.

There are two more points in the fourth and fifth Chapters that we should understand before we begin our consideration of the Letters to the Churches and the Seven Seals. First, the "four beasts" and second, He who was found "worthy to open the book."

> *And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind . . . and they were full of eyes within: . . .* REV. 4:6 & 8

The four beasts are the four phases of the outer man; the mind, the emotions, the passions and the body. This does not mean that the outer man is bestial or undesirable. All of these four phases of the outer man are literally full of eyes, within and without. If you will take only a

casual glance at your outer nature, you will find that the eternal desire and trend in all that you say, think and do is with the hope of perfection; that something more desirable will come out of the process. Everything in you is "pointed" toward perfection. This is the meaning of all these eyes. Now, how is this perfection to be realized?

> *And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof . . . And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain . . . And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne . . . Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof.* REV. 5:5, 6, 7 & 9

The one worthy to open the Book and loose the Seals is first expressed as the "Lion of the Tribe of Juda" but when it is taken and opened, the text says that the "Lamb of God" actually does all the opening. This is simply

the secret by which you become the Master, or King. The lion and the lamb shall lie down together and we often jokingly add that the lamb will be on the inside. That is literally true. This is the same mystery that Christ gave to his disciples that mastery begins in servitude. Whatever you serve, or submit to, ultimately and completely masters you. What masters you is your kingship, your authority. To let the Spirit of life flow through you is to have the Power of life working through you. To know that you are but a series of capacities and to so conduct yourself that right forces flow through you is to find the secret of Mastership.

The meditation herewith is for your practice to prepare your mind for the lessons that follow:

MEDITATION

"IN ABSOLUTE FAITH, I ABANDON MYSELF TO THE PRESENCE OF GOD. I TRUST HIM IMPLICITLY TO GUIDE ME, SUSTAIN ME AND PROVIDE ME WITH ALL THINGS NEEDFUL IN MY LIFE."

Lesson Two

THE INITIATION OF POWER

AS WE TAKE UP THE actual opening of the Seals, we are to keep in mind that it is no effort of our own that actually opens the Seals. We may plant a seed, water it, see that it has plenty of sunlight, but that which breaks the shell of the seed is the growth and expansion of the germ of life. It is the potential nature within the seed in the process of becoming the manifest plant that breaks the seed, then breaks through the ground, leaves break through the stem, then come buds, flowers and new seeds. All of this process is natural growth.

Your growth into Spiritual consciousness is similar to the processes of nature. The instruction given in these lessons only refers to conditions which you may fulfil that your growth may most naturally proceed. The

Letters to the Seven Churches are the instructions given for your procedure. These instructions, you are first *to understand*. Second, you are *to practice* them. The Seals are broken in the consequent growth. The explanation following the opening of the Seals merely tells what happens in you as a result. You, therefore, understand what you are to do and you also understand the reason for certain changes that will follow. You are literally "seeing" your way through the whole process of your own growth.

> *Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks.* REV. 2:1

When you plant a seed, you do so always with the thought of the potential plant that is to come out of it. There is no other object in planting the seed in the first place. All of your procedure through the Letters and the Seals is concerned with the potential man that is to come out of the process. Your work is to cultivate and water it, keep it in the limelight. It will do its own growing. This potential man

is the "Angel of His Presence." You can easily visualize the plant that is to come out of the seed and you can as easily see what you hope to become. From now on, all of your effort is in this direction. All that you have ever hoped to be is now to be called into action until it supplants what you seem to be at present. Therefore, you deal only with this "Angel," or God-Self. This is the manner in which all the letters are addressed.

Ephesus means "permission." This indicates that your first step in spiritual progress is in the recognition that the outer nature lives only by permission, or as a product and outlet of the Inner Self. If a product, it can only be sustained by the Inner Self. The more it receives of the Inner Self, the more perfection is expressed. This worship at Ephesus is, therefore, a continuation of the process of surrender begun at Patmos. In this instance, however, it is surrender *to* all that is within the Divine Self that it may express through the manifest self.

The outer nature is nothing but a vehicle. It is inoperative and impotent unless animated by some force. "The flesh profiteth nothing"—that is, it is not a producer. Flesh in this sense

includes all the four beasts – mind, emotions, passions, and body. None of these are capable of self-action. They must act with relationship to something else. Heretofore, they have been trained to act upon stimulation arising from the world of form. You think, feel, and act with respect to some other form. Now you must learn to act from the Inspiration of the Almighty, the full power and capacity of the Divine Self. You must learn to think as It *knows* and act as It *acts*. To learn Its nature, there must be a complete reversal of attention from the things that are apparent to the things that are yet to come. The Seven degrees of Spiritual Power are all within the "Angel of His Presence." The Seven Stars are the individual embodiment of the Seven Spirits. They are ready to fully express through the outer self whenever they are called forth.

The Seven Golden Candlesticks refer to your capacities for receiving the Seven Spiritual Powers – Stars – of the Christ Self.

I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou

hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars. REV. 2:2

You are always expressing something. These expressions are engendered within your nature from one source or another. Some come from the Soul Self, some from the external. There is a way of telling at the very outset of your journey which impulses are kin to the Seven Spirits of God. If you have a natural hatred or dislike either for the impulse or the result or purpose to which it is applied, it is wrong. In other words, if the impulse is in any sense contrary to your highest ideal of perfection, it is not the right motive to let flow through you. If you perfectly harmonize with it, if it exactly fits into your ideal, if you thrill with the realization of power or possibility for achieving the infinitely worth while, that is the right impulse and comes from the Divine Self. However, some definite analysis and study of these various impulses will be necessary in the beginning. Everything clears up with practice.

Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. REV. 2:4

The "first love" is the Divine Self, the point where manifest man directly contacts God. Before the outer man can attain anything, it must come by and through this Self. "No man cometh to the Father but by Me." The very first step in progress must be to return and make a definite, tangible contact here, for there is no other source of direct power and knowledge. It was from this fountain, "The Father Within," that Jesus drew all of his power. This must become the first objective of your devotion. Spiritual progress is not in calling down the power of God to do your bidding or to answer the prayer of your desire. "I, if I be lifted up will draw all men unto Me." If you, in consciousness, are lifted up to the level of the Christ Self, the rest of your being will naturally follow and all need and desire will be fulfilled from this source.

> *Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.* REV. 2:5

It is from this perfect Christ Self that you have come into manifestation. Man has not

necessarily "fallen" when he comes into the manifest world. But he becomes attached to material forms and loses the knowledge of his Spiritual estate. The only way out is to "repent" and begin over again at your beginning, which is Christ. The world is only for the purpose of strengthening spiritual muscle. To fulfill this purpose and free yourself from bondage, you must get a knowledge of beginnings, or the immediate source of your being. Christ, the Word, of course had his beginning in God but the source of the manifest man is Christ. Unless the outer man is rejoined to Christ, he is subject to death for only through Christ is life linked with form.

> *But this thou hast, that thou hatest deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.* REV. 2:6

The key to everything that is false is that which your being naturally rebels against. All this must be weeded out of the nature. Neglect or non-use is the secret of getting rid of false habits. *Practice* is the way to form new ones.

> *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To*

him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. REV. 2:7

Be eternally sensitive to the urge toward the highest ideals of your inner nature. Be insistent upon thinking, analyzing, and living these ideals. Only as Spiritual motives flow through the channels of the outer can Spiritual perfection be attained. Through attention to the inner motives, they begin expanding through the outer nature and this expansion breaks the Seal of limitation. There is a release of Spiritual Power, your enthusiasm and faith are awakened and thus the first "Seal" is broken. The first Spirit released before the Throne of God is *"Power."*

And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. REV. 6:1

The rush of new *power* fills your whole nature and great changes take place in you. As you are awed in the presence of thunder, so are you awed at the great Power of God released through you.

And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer. REV. 6:2

After the first burst of Spiritual enthusiasm, you will settle down to a more balanced procedure. You seem carried surely and securely on by a current of awakened force. This is the white horse. The bow is the sense that this *power* also flows through everything that you do. Impotence vanishes and your efforts are crowned with a degree of success you have never known before. You no longer fight life's battles alone. "I will contend with them that contend against thee" is now a reality to you and you go forth conquering and to conquer. You know that the Power of God flows through you, to accomplish all things.

MEDITATION

"I KEEP MYSELF AN OPEN CHANNEL FOR THE CHRIST SELF TO FLOW THROUGH ME IN ALL THAT I SAY, THINK, AND DO. ALL THE POWER OF GOD IS IN CHRIST AND FLOWING THROUGH ME; ALL THINGS ARE EASILY ACCOMPLISHED."

Lesson Three

And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive. REV. 2:8

AS IN THE PRECEDING Letter, the address is again to the "Angel." Draw continually upon this Divine storage reservoir for all things, for it is the only Source. Learn to depend upon it as you have depended upon the world and you will find what the world cannot give you.

Smyrna means "myrrh," which in turn means "strong order." It literally means radiation, emanation, radiance. In spiritual progress, it means emotion, passion, or realization. The emotions and passions of the soul do not arise from physical stimulation but from the quickening of the Spirit. It is that state of progress

where your inner nature comes into its inheritance of Spiritual reality, the blessing of God that makes "rich and adds no sorrow thereto." This tallies with the second Spirit which is before the Throne of God and which is *"Riches."* This is your true wealth. If you have this wealth, you never want for any good thing on any plane. If you lack this inner wealth, no amount of money or possessions can satisfy your inner cravings. You are poor indeed, though you have all the wealth in the world, for your soul is starved.

Hope is no longer dead but comes alive with a radiance and assurance. The surge of power becomes a steady conviction and you begin to sense the abundance of God in the very air you breathe. The *riches* of the Kingdom are yours and not even outer lack can depress you. When you have reached this state of inner wealth, it must shortly come to pass that outer abundance manifest for the outer flows on the current of the inner.

> *I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou are rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.* REV. 2:9

All the wealth of the Universe is inherently the right of every created thing. You must come into possession of it for yourself. It is only when you receive, that you come into ownership. It must be received from the giver and on terms required by the giver. The Giver is God and all the wealth of God is embodied in the "Angel of His Presence." "All Thine is mine" is the eternal consciousness of the Christ. Next in line of inheritance is the outer man and you may receive all supply by keeping yourself open to the flow of abundance from Source to manifestation. True wealth is the radiance of this flowing abundance through yourself. Money is the outer embodiment of the creative ability expressed through you; it is stored wealth. But to keep its radiance, it must be kept moving as the circulating medium of your outer life as the Spirit is the circulating medium of your inner wealth. The outer and inner working together makes complete and perfect Wealth. "Jehovah, thy God . . . giveth thee power to get wealth." The element must always be joined to its principle if perfection is to be manifest.

If you work only to get money, you are producing it at the *expense* of your own nature. If you work for the joy of expressing your Spiritual power and wealth, money comes as a result of the *expanse* of your nature. Wealth is then a flowing stream of expanding power which can come only from the Great Giver. The unobstructed *flow* of power from the God Universal through the God "Presence" in the Jesus Christ Self, to and through you, is the unalterable process of life. It is both the secret of power and wealth. And wealth is only Spiritual power sustained until it is the radiant character of the individual through whom it flows, producing a rich manifestation of itself in all the outer affairs.

> *Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.*
> REV. 2:10

Have no fear for what you seem to lose in transferring your affections and faith from effect to cause. You need no further evidence

of what to expect from the world. The change must be made if you are to gain your freedom and the prize before you. In mathematics, if you have copied your lessons from other students, you may have a few sinking spells and weak fears when you first begin to rely solely on the rule. You have to forget everything while you learn to understand it. You have to refrain from former habits while you apply it. But the disturbance will give way to the thrill of power if you stand by the rule. Impoverished places will be rich with results when your nature is rich with power flowing from many rules well learned and faithfully applied.

So with the transition into things Spiritual and the new technique that is required in your procedure therewith. The bondage of past habits may lay strong claim upon your nature for they are deeply ingrained from generations of habit. All the world may try to keep you imprisoned within its claims. But the "Angel of Deliverance" is at hand to break prison bars and roll away the stones. Your God-Self is always with you, nearer than breath, ready to flood you with its power and wealth if you dare to risk yourself completely to It. The

Lord *your* God is ever at hand, embodying the fulness of the Godhead, whenever you are ready to be Its channel. Like Job, risk life itself. "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him." Sink or swim, live or die, swing out in *absolute faith* in the God who created you. "Prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Malachi 3:10.

> *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.* REV. 2:11

Subject yourself constantly to the eternal trend of your Source. Become as dependent upon that Source as you now depend upon the world and the crown of life is yours. The dying out of the ways of ignorance shall not touch you.

> *And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see.* REV. 6:3

"Come and see" persists as the key in the opening of the Seals. Each requires "seeing"

your way through the entire process of liberation. To look to the forms of the world is to seal yourself from reality, for form is only the expression. To "see" through the form to the forming principle is always a liberating act.

> *And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they shall kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.* REV. 6:4

The Concordant Version of the Scriptures designates the horse of the second Seal as "fiery red." This, therefore, symbolizes that power has here reached the point of radiance and perfectly coincides with the idea that wealth is radiance rather than a matter of possession.

To "take peace from the world" when there is no peace in the world seems a far-fetched statement. However, in the broader sense, it means that peace is always vested in the Principle of life itself and not in the elements used by Principle. "I will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on me" is a statement of fact as relates to all procedure. When you are established in the knowledge of mathematical

rules, you have a balanced relationship to the principle and its result. To know the way of God in all things and to live according to that way is to be at perfect peace, for all results must follow accordingly. The Christ in Jesus said "I Am the Way" and the Christ in you is the Way of God in your life. To see and live as your "Angel of His Presence" directs is to live in absolutely security, for results are the exact outpicturing of the richness of the life that is Christ.

"Death" follows when you ride the Divine impulse of Wealth. It is the death of every idea, and the disintegration of every structure in you and your environment, that is formed by ignorance. It is the uprooting of every tree that the Father did not plant. The sharpened wits of keen discernment that comes with your awakening enables you to distinguish between the fruits of the law and the forms of your own making. Learn to let go of your own and lay hold of the eternal and perfect.

There may be distress in the "death" that takes place in you. But if you are faithful in all the deaths that take place, you will find in

each and every one the key to life. To quickly break with that which has proved false or incomplete is to keep yourself free. To be alert to your own expanding nature in Christ is life and wealth.

MEDITATION

"GOD GIVETH POWER TO GET WEALTH. THE TREASURES OF HIS SPIRIT IN CHRIST IS A MINE OF UNTOLD WEALTH, ENRICHING ME WITHIN AND WITHOUT. I AM RICH IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS THAT 'ALL THAT THE FATHER HATH IS MINE'."

Lesson Four

THE INITIATION OF WISDOM

THE CONTINUATION OF a process from inception to conclusion is the only way by which perfect results may be attained. The seed, the plant, the flower, the fruit follow in sequence and are only the stages in the development of a single process. There can be no shifting to other processes and no interruption of the one process, if results are to be forthcoming. Pursuing one process to its conclusion is absolute power in the realm where it applies.

> *And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges.* REV. 2:12.

The third step in Spiritual progress is only a continuation of the first step. As we began

by calling on the "Angel of His Presence," so we continue to call on this "Presence" until its inherent nature flows completely and fully through our nature. If we have faithfully practiced the instruction of the preceding lessons, we begin to realize something of the great possibilities that are open to us.

All that you ever become on any plane is determined by what you let flow through your nature. A cup may contain pure gold as easily as it may contain water. A man may receive and express the stream of life flowing out from the heart of God as easily as he can allow the appearances of the world to flow through him. It is all a matter of the Source from which he draws his impressions. He draws into his nature what he attends to and relies upon. It is all just that simple. But faithful practice of new methods is the only way to shut off the flow of old impressions and open up the channels of your being to new expressions. So you continue to address yourself to the "Angel of His Presence" until all the storage of power resident within it is let loose in and through your being.

Discipline is required in refraining from old habits. Faithful application is necessary in forming new habits. *Faith* in God comes by practice. Faith that the world can give you what your nature demands has proved false, but the old habits may cling for a time. They will vanish through neglect and perpetual turning to God for what you have not found elsewhere. It is worth a daring experiment.

The third step in your Spiritual progress is found at Pergamos. Pergamos means "citadel" and was the seat of the "Priesthood." It was noted for its vast libraries. Literally, it was the "seat of learning." It was also the "seat of Satan." Here we must pass our third initiation into the "Church of Christ."

Being the "seat of learning," we have the key to its meaning in our individual nature. The next step we take is in mastering the processes of the "learning" mind, that mind with which we are most familiar. Its right function is "Priesthood" but its wrong function is the seat of all of our opposition (Satan) in life. We need no argument to convince us that false or incomplete knowledge is a barrier to progress. Likewise, we concede that right

knowledge is the only way to progress. That false knowledge and false mental habits are our only opposition in life may be difficult for the average individual to comprehend. The faithful pursuit of true knowledge will bring a freedom in your experience that will be convincing proof of this fact, so we will make no further explanation here.

That the intellectual mind is only a "learning" mind is discovered easily by one who will study its nature. It is very apparent that the brain mind, or intellect, is not capable of performing any original function of its own. It is dependent upon impressions from the external world drawn through the five senses, or from the "knowing" mind within through the intuitive sense. Its thoughts are simply the product of innumerable impressions gathered within it. If the impressions are incorrect or incomplete, the whole intellectual process is limited accordingly. This imperfect knowledge impedes the whole procedure of the man. It is, then, the seat of all limitation. When the mind is kept open to the inner impressions, urges, hopes, and ideals which come from the Jesus Christ Self, it continues to expand into new thoughts and

habits. The intellectual mind then becomes the seat of *true* learning, called in this Letter, the "Priesthood." From here on, one begins to understand the real trend of life and the wisdom of the Inner Self begins to take possession of the outer mind.

The sword with two edges here means that the authority of awakened true wisdom begins to have its telling (or cutting) effect in everything you do. Here, your words are truly Spirit and Life and accomplish that whereunto they are sent. They move through your nature on the same impulse that created Heaven and Earth – the Spirit of Life that is in Christ Jesus. This is usually referred to as "inspiration" and it is this inspiration that awakens true understanding. To know and follow your Spiritual inspirations is true *"Wisdom,"* the third Spirit released from before the Throne of God. Its fruition is right knowledge, and false knowledge (Satan) has been overcome.

I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in

those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth. REV. 2:13

The false knowledge formed from outer impressions has caused the martyrdom of Antipas which means "like the Father." You kill out your Spiritual powers and undermine the entire process of life with false knowledge. But holding to the Name, the nature of the Inner Self, he that was dead is brought back to life again.

But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication. REV. 2:14
So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate. REV. 2:15

It is the mental and emotional grip you have on the world that retards your progress. These ideas that relate you to the world are the only binding influences in your nature. This is the doctrine of Balaam. Every standard of thought,

word, feeling and act of the past must be released. Can you not see that you yourself are held by the grip you have on anything? To be free yourself, you must free even your thoughts. Attach yourself to the moving power of the Spirit and you move on in its progress. Everything you bind in the earth binds you out of Heaven, for Heaven is freedom. Everything that you loose in the earth frees you that you may pursue the Spirit as it unfolds its limitless nature to you. The doctrine of the Nicolaitans was the doctrine of Balaam.

Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. REV. 2:16

Unless you continue to return (repent) to the Way of the Spirit within you, the progressive force of life once started will begin its own disintegration of the false and you will go through a seeming period of loss. But nothing can be lost except that which is contrary to the Divine purpose. The part of *wisdom* is to give it up before this disintegration sets in. Constant letting go of the apparent

and moving on with that which is developing is the secret of your growth from sense to Spiritual consciousness. It means shedding all you do not like and growing into everything that is desirable.

> *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.* REV. 2:17

Keep your ear ever listening to those Spiritual forces that are restless to flow through your outer nature. Followed through, this new procedure begins to produce actual results and the whole outer nature seems for the first time to have been actually fed. The "Angel of His Presence" becomes an actual, tangible fact in your experience. You begin to realize definitely that this "Angel" is the Spiritual counterpart of your being; that it is the Self instead of that which you have previously thought to be you. The nature here seems almost to reverse itself. This is all theory, however, except to those who actually experience this change.

> *And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand.* REV. 6:5
>
> *And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.* REV. 6:6

The black horse here symbolizes the release of inner *wisdom* through the outer mind. There is nothing that forebodes evil in this black horse. Black is only symbolic of the tangibly manifest. But a "sound" mind is tantamount to a tangible world and it is at this point that the conscious mind has become the channel through which original wisdom flows. There is nothing that stabilizes your nature but sound wisdom. The interaction of the intellectual mind with the Christ mind synchronizes the individual with the Universal.

The "balances" represent the soundness of judgment that comes along with the sound mind. Now everything in life is weighed in the balance to discern its Spiritual value rather

than its material profit. Does this thing advance my Spiritual capacity and increase my Spiritual nature, or does it only feed the outer man? Even in our material knowledge, we accept the theory that to increase one's skill is better than to merely work for what we can get. If your skill grows, the profit increases accordingly. To neglect your skill is to undermine the root of profit. Therefore, becoming the Divine man is more important than trying to feed and clothe the outer man. The Divine man, once in action, can easily take care of this outer vehicle and all its needs.

But in the weighing process to discern the difference between the growing and profit motives, you must exercise the kind of judgment that does not destroy the love of life and the joy of living – "the oil and the wine." To be Spiritual, you must be in love with life and live a joyous life. Love and Joy are the first two ingredients of the God-spell as given by Paul.

The new life in Christ Jesus now is tangibly ushered in when your mind with its habits has gone through this readjustment. This new way of living becomes tangible when your intellect

has adopted *Its ways*. The whole outer nature of yourself is at last lined up with the eternal trend of Life as it is hid with Christ in God.

MEDITATION

"I RELINQUISH ALL MY OWN THOUGHTS AND HABITS. I COMPLETELY BREAK WITH ALL THAT I HAVE BEEN IN THE PAST OR SEEM TO BE IN THE PRESENT. I HAVE ABSOLUTE FAITH THAT THE LAW OF LIFE IS BRINGING INTO COMPLETE FRUITION EVERY ENDURING HOPE AND IDEAL OF MY INNER SELF."

Lesson Five

THE INITIATION OF STRENGTH

And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass. REV. 2:18

I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first. REV. 2:19

TO THE "ANGEL" IS again the manner of address. By this time, you begin to realize this immense storage of power and possibility that is immediately accessible to you. Once you have sensed the great opportunity here presented, you constantly turn to this Source for the solution to every problem. This is the "Christ in you, the hope of glory"

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that we have touched upon lightly in all religions and metaphysics but it now becomes a tangible reality.

Much should be said regarding this "Angel of His Presence" but after all, it is only through the "practice of the Presence" that you really come to *know* it. It is the inner fact, the foundation of your being and the only foundation upon which you can successfully build your life's structure.

There is a great uncertainty both as to the meaning and location of Thyatira. It is sometimes referred to as being Lydia – "Power" and Mysia – "Uncertainty." Its main industry is dyeing. Everything about Thyatira indicates change, uncertainty, transition. The problem that confronts the Spiritual aspirant here is pursuing a chosen course until it has proved itself. *Do not become faint-hearted* and lapse into old habits from which you have just emerged. Beyond Thyatira, about three miles, is the Sanctuary of Sambatha which means "amalgamation." You must stand by your new plan of action until you have made your complete union with it; until it has become the fixed habit of life, to put it simply. When this

"amalgamation" is made there is a radiation of assurance that shines from your whole being. Uncertainty gives way to confidence. This gives strength to your outer nature and *"Strength"* is the fourth Spirit released from before the Throne of God. Patience in applying new found capabilities and more effective work are the manifest characteristics of the one who thus proceeds. He has learned that results are sure to follow a faithful application of his new found procedure.

> *Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.* REV. 2:20

Jezebel represents the chief test that confronts you in breaking through this stage of your progress. She symbolizes the emotional attachment to those former habits inbred by world experiences. These emotional attachments are tenacious and have a strong pull even long after you have made your intellectual break with former practices. You long for the

"flesh pots of Egypt" even though you remember the terrific bondage that came along with them. But these emotional attachments must be broken. If old habits pull you back, you cannot hope to attain the "mark of your high calling."

The change here indicates that your whole nature must now be trained to conform to new motives. Not only must the emotional habits be broken up, but every structure, flesh, business and social, must come under this change. It is a genuine shake-up of your whole nature that "those things which may be shaken may be removed and those things which cannot be shaken may remain." If you faint not in this day of adversity, there is no further deprivation or seeming loss that you will have to endure. There is no more tearing down but a constant building up. The breaking of the remaining seals seems to be breaking into the new entirely and the breaking away from the false seems at least minimized.

> *But that which ye have already, hold fast till I come.* REV. 2:25

Hold fast to the progress you have made, for victories are upon you. Power over the

conditions of life is within your grasp. Authority has been gained in following the law of God and problems are shattered to bits. They become meaningless and impotent.

> *And I will give him the morning star.* REV. 2:28

The first clear vision of what it means to be "Christ born" dissolves the darkness which you have forever left behind.

> *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.* REV. 2:29

But the end is not yet. Much is ahead of you. You must ever keep a listening ear to the Mighty Trend of the Spirit that is yet to fulfil great things of its own nature in you.

> *And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.* REV. 6:7

> *And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to*

kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth. REV. 6:8

The pale horse is the manifesting influence of Spiritual power that now floods your nature as you have been faithful in "following through" regardless of what may seem to have called you to return to former ways. Power begins to color your nature with *"strength."*

The Death and Hell that is to come upon a fourth part of the earth refers to the disintegration of false structures previously referred to as the children of Jezebel. You are in the habit of thinking that in your former state your whole nature has been wrong. That is entirely erroneous for your nature can only become adulterated to a certain point. Beyond that point, you cannot live. In the worst of men, there is a predominance of good. If it were not so, no one could survive. The Author of Life is good and everything is sustained by good. "Evil bears the seed of its own destruction" and left to itself, it destroys itself. All evil must necessarily be supported by good. Christ said of those who were to crucify him that they could not do this thing except the power were

given them of God. You may not understand this at present but it will be clear as you proceed.

Here we have a clue as to the method to be employed in our future progress. It is the method by which we become completely separated from the path of tribulation which we do not consider in this series. This method is by a complete impersonalizing of evil. Are you not aware of the fact that you are not wholly responsible for your mistakes in life? Have you not been falsely trained? Had you really known what was right, do you not feel you would have done better? Whenever and wherever you find the undesirable in yourself, or your environment, immediately impersonalize it for you have only vicariously entered into the stream of evil that men before you have instituted. Take the attitude: "This is not mine; it is but the product of race ignorance. I have only been ignorantly drawn into and become a part of a false system. Knowing this, I disclaim all responsibility for what appears in my life. I separate myself from it; drop it out of my life; have no further part in it. Being only a channel, I open myself to the stream of life and in the future, I am de-

termined that only good shall flow through me."

Nor shall you in the future assume any weight of pride in your progress in the good which life offers. You enter, vicariously, into the stream of good that flows from the Beginning. To know neither good nor evil as of yourself is the only way to perfect freedom. "Let this cup pass from me" – refuse to fill your cup of life from the ways of the world. The glory from the beginning is the only ordained water to fill the human cup. To be fully prepared to stand the test of achievement, you should be fully prepared not to take personal credit to yourself. It must be impersonalized even as evil is to be impersonalized. In this way, you have nothing in you to hinder the flow of Spiritual forces through your nature. This strengthens your real importance as a distributing center for the Universal Storehouse; receiving and expressing the *Power, Riches, Wisdom* and *Strength* of God.

At this point, you pass beyond the degree of "Prophet" (one who senses the activity of God). Now you are ready to proclaim or express the Truth of God awakened in you. You are now at the threshold of "Priesthood" (one who casts

the God-Spell over his world). A Priest of God is not one who teaches the doctrines of men. At this point you are "called out," or are separated from the past, and you live as a new creature, a Spiritual Being devoted to the true motives of life.

MEDITATION

"THROUGH CHRIST, THE DIVINE SELF, I LIVE AS A NEW CREATURE AND FORMER THINGS HAVE PASSED. FORGETTING THE THINGS WHICH ARE BEHIND, I LIVE ONLY AS THE CHANNEL THROUGH WHICH GOD-IDEALS ARE EXPRESSED. I AM A NEW CREATURE IN CHRIST JESUS."

Lesson Six

THE INITIATION OF HONOR

LIKE EACH PRECEDING step, this one must proceed from the same basis, "The Angel of His Presence," and is the continuation of the same process initiated at the beginning. We repeat this point for the mind must be schooled to this method of procedure. Once stated, a Truth may be apparent to the mind but only by repetition does it become a fixed habit. At each step in your progress, you draw the motive power, that carries you on, from the "Angel of His Presence."

At the First Seal; he held "the seven stars in his right hand." This "Angel" or Divine Self contains all the potential capacity of the outer self.

At the Second Seal; it is he "which was dead and is alive." Here the Divine capacities begin to function through the outer self. They begin to come alive in the consciousness.

In the Third Seal; "the sharp sword with two edges" refers to the fact that the awakening Self is now having its telling, or cutting, effect in the outer life. New authority is being felt.

In the Fourth Seal; the "eyes like unto a flame of fire" is that state where the whole nature is strengthened and sustained by the inner self. Authority flashes from the eyes and from the whole bearing of the individual.

"He that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars" is the point in breaking the Fifth Seal where there comes a synchronizing of the Universal God, the "Angel of His Presence," and the outer self. This is where you slip into the sense of harmony with the Divine Plan of life. Here you actually awaken to the assurance that all which you have been seeking is at hand. You are in line to receive the complete outpouring of the Spirit and are honored of the Father. *"Honor"* is the fifth Spirit released from before the Throne of God.

And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God,

and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. REV. 3:1

Sardis was the capital of Lydia and as such was the place of political honor. The Sardis stone occupied the first place in the first row of the breast plate of the High Priest, thus indicating Spiritual rank, or the place of religious honor. But the *honor* bestowed upon one who truly progresses spiritually is not of a political or religious nature. His kingdom is not of this world and he has no need of religious titles to indicate his rank according to the standards of men. A Priest of God is one who has received that degree of Spiritual quickening which enables him to proclaim the gospel of God. He has become a sort of relay station in the Divine plan, passing on to his hearers what he has learned in moments of High Communion with the "Angel of His Presence." He is honored of God, because he has sought the ways of God until he has found himself actually in the stream of life. He is receiving what God has to give instead of what the world has to offer. "Who exalteth like Jehovah" is *honor* which nothing else can give and beside which the honor of

men is but tinsel, void of real meaning. This is the degree of true Priesthood in one's Spiritual progress.

> *Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.* REV. 3:2.

Though your new nature in Christ is now awake in consciousness, it is not yet complete. You are not yet grounded in new habits. In order to keep from slipping back into old habits, you must put forth renewed effort in the "Practice of the Presence" until you are perfect before God. It is only when habit is deeply ingrained in character that it carries you on. Until then "be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain."

> *Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.* REV. 3:3

A gentle reminder here is, no doubt, timely – "remember how thou hast received." No

matter how far you are in the scale of progress, your rise has been because "power from on high" has been given to you. All that you are now and all that you become in the future is what is given from your Source, passed on to you by the "Angel of His Presence." So as the sense of power increases through you and your progress continues, the reminder, to keep yourself as the *channel* and not the *possessor,* is important. When you think you stand, take heed lest you fall. You rise vicariously by the power of the Divine Self. You are sustained in your estate by the Divine, or Christ, Self. All progress in the future will be by the expanse of the outer self to receive what the Divine Self has to give. There is no place for the personal ego to arise and lay claim to anything as distinctly its own. Have you ever noticed when the nation honors a man by exalting him to a position of authority and be becomes obsessed with his own sense of power, how, sooner or later, he is shorn of that power and reduced to shame? History blazes with such incidents. Politically, one does well to remember that he is the "honored sir," instead of the "honorable sir." He is honorable only when he knows he is there

by the will of the people and to carry out the will of the people. As with men, so with God. When God has exalted you by His power, you are sustained by His power and your progress is a matter of keeping in the flow of His power. You continue on the path by the same process you have employed up to the present. Hold fast and keep to the course you have set yourself to, that you may live completely in the new.

Once the creative process has gotten a start in consciousness, it persists. It continues to gain momentum and unless the outer consciousness keeps growing with it, there comes a time of adjustment. Like water piling up behind a dam, the time arrives when it must have an outlet or the dam will break. There is no way of computing the exact time of the break, and to avoid the break the outlet must be provided. In order to avoid the shock of sudden awakening, one should continue to consciously open himself to the flow of power from the "Angel of His Presence." It is not enough to receive only. Priesthood is the state of expression and one here orders his word and act to give expression to the convictions of his heart.

Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy. REV. 3:4.

He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. REV. 3:5

As has been stated before in this series, the greater portion of man's nature is not evil. Much is undefiled by the world standards of living. However, the good is to be awakened. The mind must become illumined, the emotions and passions awakened in spiritual consciousness, and the flesh quickened of the Spirit. This awakening makes the entire nature radiant. This radiance is the white garment that envelops your entire being. You literally shine with the Light of the Spirit.

At this point, your name is written in the Book of Life; your outer nature is now involved with the true motives of life. You effectively live in your outer life what has heretofore been growing chiefly in consciousness. This is indeed

where you are honored of the Father. You are in the stream of His will and "He exalteth by His Power." You are set on high because you have known his name. All the creative forces of Heaven are now open to you for you have purified your nature until you are a perfect channel.

> *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.* REV. 3:6

But this is only the beginning of illumination. God is Infinite and there is no end to progress. There are glorious visions and revelations yet to come. Keep a listening ear to the further unfoldment of the Spirit within.

> *And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held.* REV. 6:9

In following the instruction given in the Fifth Letter, you are brought to the next degree of revelation. In this step, the "Angel of His Presence" becomes increasingly tangible to the consciousness. The mystery of "soul" is now

made clear, for the "Angel of the Lord" is the Soul of His creation. This revelation brings one to the very Throne of God. All the "deaths" that have followed with the breaking of the Seals have been for the purpose of bringing out the soul qualities that were heretofore hidden from you. The joy of death is now seen, for only in the death of the old could the newness of life in Christ come into being. The testimony, or character of God in His Word, is now brought to Light and that Light becomes your Life. The clarity of vision here brings the knowledge that the "Word," the "Christ," the "Father Within," the "Angel" are but different terms used to describe a simple fact and this fact is your own Soul. An utter, tangible closeness to the very Throne of God is the gratifying result.

> *And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?* REV. 6:10

When you have fully comprehended a great blessing, your first instinct is to share it with

others. No joy is complete by yourself. It is enlarged by sharing. The natural instinct is to know that the good now yours is to be extended to everything and everybody. This even extends to that which has died out of your own being. In the Divine economy, all that has been given you, none is to be lost. In the process of life, every experience is refined and the ultimate good extracted from it. This good becomes an eternal part of your nature. This is the judgment and vengeance of God, the restoration of all things to their Divine status. The "blood" of the Soul – the Breath of God – is poured out upon and through all things to their redemption.

> *And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.* REV. 6:11

The radiance of Spiritual illumination shines through your entire nature now. It is a tangible atmosphere surrounding you and is your true garment, your "robe of white." Here, you have found complete rest from your own labors and

the radiance of Spiritual power is the secret of all your accomplishments. Every word you speak is alive with this power and it accomplishes that whereunto it is sent. Whatever you do prospers, for the creative power of God is the motive power in every effort. This procedure continues until everything and everybody is redeemed into the path of Spiritual Light.

MEDITATION

"I WILLINGLY ABANDON THE HONORS WHICH MEN MAY BESTOW. I SEEK ONLY THAT STATION IN LIFE AND THE AUTHORITY IN THE WORLD TO WHICH THE POWER OF GOD EXALTS ME. I CLAIM NOTHING BUT THE RIGHT OF BEING A PERFECT CHANNEL THAT THE FULL PURPOSE OF GOD MAY FLOW THROUGH ME."

Lesson Seven

THE INITIATION OF GLORY

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth, and shutteth, and no man openeth. REV. 3:7

BY THIS TIME IN YOUR procedure, you should have established the habit of looking to the Christ within for all motives of thought, word, and deed. A persistent drawing upon this "Angel of His Presence" floods your nature with such power and life that there is no question about this procedure being practical and potent. The inclination to depend upon this "Presence" becomes natural and the sense of security grows. A tangible intimacy is developed; your at-one-ment with this "Presence" increases your sense of accomplishing power.

Philadelphia means "brotherly love." The town which now stands as representative of Philadelphia is Ala-shehr which means "reddish city," giving you an added significance in arriving at its full spiritual meaning. As the City of "brotherly love," this step in your progress refers to the complete union that is made between the inner and outer man.

Love is the point of complete oneness or agreement. From this union, there comes a radiance (reddish city) that is the natural result thereof. To illustrate: When two lines of force meet, they produce light, sound, or form. Oxygen and hydrogen meeting in the exact proportions of 2 parts of hydrogen and one part of oxygen produce water. Paul said that "love beareth all things." It is the great producer that brings all things to birth. Love is the fulfillment of all law in that all things are brought into being by some perfect combination of forces which preceded them. One knowing this law is careful of the attachments he forms in his mental and emotional nature. From these combinations come all conditions in life, either good or ill.

Good is always brought into manifestation when your mental and emotional nature is completely involved with the positive forces of the "Angel of His Presence." The seven blessings of God are within this "Presence." The nature of man completely obsessed – completely in love – with the POWER, RICHES, WISDOM, STRENGTH, and HONOR of God is certain to bring forth the GLORY and perfect BLESSING of God.

Love is the key of David for David means "well beloved." By this key, all doors in life are opened and all doors closed. Perfect love, the love of God in Christ Jesus opens every door to the GLORY and blessing in God. It also closes every door to your former estate for complete attachment to one thing closes your nature to any impression from another or opposite thing. Thus the one who has made his complete at-one-ment with the GLORY of the "Angel of His Presence" seals himself from returning to his former ways of destruction. So in breaking through the Seals that lead to new life in Christ Jesus, you find you have formed a series of reverse Seals that shut off your

return to any former state. Ignorance seals you from knowledge but once you break through to knowledge, you cannot return to ignorance.

Love, complete attachment, is creative and the love of God brings forth fruits unto righteousness.

> *I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.* REV. 3:8

Through keeping a persistent course in calling upon the "Angel of His Presence," you at last have broken into the radiance of His Presence and the glory that shineth as the sun in its strength floods your entire nature. *"Glory"* is the sixth Spirit released from before the Throne of God.

> *Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.* REV. 3:9

The "Jews" here is not a reference to a race of people but symbolize that phase of the world

which has seemed profitable but has proven false. You have only found that dependence upon the world has put you to the test (Satan). It is only possible to handle the world of form when it is met in the knowledge and power of God, for God is the creative principle. Mathematical problems are unmanageable when you do not know and apply the rule. To labor with the problem itself only develops great mental stress; the more you depend upon your own mind and labor with your own effort, the greater the pressure until you are virtually exhausted. The only opposition (Satan) you encounter is in working without knowledge of Principle. To surrender your own effort, return to the rule and follow it completely, the problem easily comes into subjection; peace and harmony return to your nature.

To drop all effort to manage mind, emotion, passion, body and affairs by your own effort is to find immediate release from all opposition. To apply yourself to a knowledge of the power and activity of God and to completely rely upon God is to find an easy solution to every problem of life. All things come into subjection to Principle, when its rule is applied.

The rule of Spiritual procedure comes from an intimate acquaintance with the "Angel of His Presence" and your practice up to this point should have brought this acquaintance. If it has not, you had better return to the preceding lessons and thoroughly study and practice them before going any further.

> *Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.* REV. 3:10

Nothing can now tempt you to leave your newly found path, for you have here found your first love, rejoined to your Source, and there is nothing strong enough to call you back. Forsaking all others, you live in that which God hath joined together. This is the Divine marriage and from here on through life, everything you do prospers.

> *Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.* REV. 3:11

These are the last days of your return to Divine ways and quick work is done. But judgment must be used to see to it that you use your

supreme power to create only that which is in perfect accord with the Divine purpose. A definite sanction must be sought in all undertakings for to misuse your power is to have it taken from you. You are ready for your crown, symbol of mastery, so see to it that the outer man does not rob you of it. The test of power is great for you feel the limitless ability of accomplishment stirring through your entire nature. As in the previous lesson, power is not yours to possess. It is a bestowal, a gift. This applies in Heaven even as it applies on earth. A master, he who has attained the next degree, is one who completely serves the law. He is mastered by the law and what he does is designated in the operation of the law. We do not use laws of mathematics. We conform to them. This was Christ's habitual practice with respect to the law of God.

> *Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh*

down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. REV. 3:12

One who is completely merged with the law of God as revealed in the Christ Self now becomes a definite factor in upholding the Divine structure, God's perfect creation. You no longer support the structures of human ignorance, but support the Truth in all its phases. You are a pillar in the Temple of God. Your whole nature (name) and purpose in life is changed. A name designates the essential nature of a thing, it describes an embodied state of being. When you have so embodied the "Angel of His Presence," that it floods your entire nature, you are born again. You are "Christed" and you are changed into His likeness. Thus the name of God is written upon you. The Glory of the Father that was yours in the beginning has redeemed you and you dwell in the house of the Lord forever. This is the new Jerusalem, your dwelling place in God. Principle is completely rejoined to its element. There can be no more going out from this state for your life is forever "hid with Christ in God."

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches. REV. 3:13

Much progress is still ahead, for God is exhaustless. Glory unto glory is yet to unfold. Watching and listening to the Voice of God in Christ has led you to this point and it must be relied upon to lead the balance of the way.

And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood. REV. 6:12

No matter how completely one has prepared himself, the extreme awakening that comes with the breaking of the Sixth Seal is more or less shocking. The Glory which is above the heavens is greater than human conception can measure. The Glory that burst on Christ at the crucifixion was accompanied by just such a shocking experience. This call to the Father to "Glorify thou me" was the sixth stage in His progress on the same path you are now traveling. The cross is a final rejection of the world of human ignorance and a complete identifica-

tion with the Truth of God. This is the most extreme change in the whole path, but it need not be severe if you keep looking to the Glory to come while the last vestige of human nature dies in the crucifixion. Even the light of the sun is "black as sackcloth of hair" in comparison with the Light of His countenance.

> *And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is taken of a mighty wind.* REV. 6:13

This verse refers to the "fields white for the harvest" referred to by Christ. The tremendous creative power which comes to the individual when he has returned to his Source is marked by swift and fruitful results. These are the last days in which God not only does quick work but the accomplishments are abundant. One who works in complete unison (love) with Divine forces works with the power that created Heaven and earth. It is for this reason that *everything* he does prospers.

> *And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.* REV. 6:14

When a scroll is rolled together, it springs open quickly when it is released. Heaven is quick to reveal its secrets and dispense its blessings for one whose trust is completely in the law that operates in Heaven. It decrees "let there be" and it is immediately so. There immediately follows a complete readjustment in your nature. That which had previously seemed mountain high in its importance is leveled to its rightful significance. The ways of God are of paramount importance and the results follow in inevitable sequence.

The breaking of this Seal is the complete parting of the ways – the path of *election* which you are now following and the way of *tribulation* for those who let the law of life run its course.

> *And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains.* REV. 6:15
>
> *And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face*

of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb. REV. 6:16

For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand? REV. 6:17

In the life of you who travel the path of *election,* all the ruling standards of the world have been dethroned and you have entered into the "rest that remaineth for the saints of the Lord." But those who still hold to the world in the thought that peace and security can be found in it are due for a rather severe transition. But the door opened before them is never shut and whosoever will may come in at any time and drink of the waters of life freely.

MEDITATION

"FINDING THAT THE GLORY OF ACHIEVEMENT PROMISED BY THE WORLD HAS PROVED FALSE, I ABANDON MYSELF TO COMPLETE FAITH IN GOD. ABSOLUTE TRUST IN THE POWER THAT CREATED WILL UNFAILINGLY GIVE ME ALL THE GLORY THAT LIFE CAN CONTAIN."

Lesson Eight

THE INITIATION OF BLESSING

And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God. REV. 3:14

FROM FIRST TO LAST, we have called upon the "Angel of His Presence." If you have been faithful unto the end, you have so lived in this "Presence" until it is now a tangible source of *power, riches, wisdom, strength* and *honor.* Its radiance not only shines upon you but through you. There is complete synchronizing of your nature with this "Presence." The *glory* that was yours at the *beginning* is now breaking through your entire being. "Come and see" has been the key that has opened every door in your progress; you now

"see" the finished perfection of the "Presence" gloriously manifest. This is the "Amen," the fruition of that which was the "beginning of the creation of God."

Laodicea is the "place of conventions." It is the culmination of your progress in one grand burst of realized perfection. All the forces of your being are "gathered together in one place" – joined within and without in the great plan and purpose of God. You are now a faithful and true witness, for you have seen the full *glory* of God. This brings perfect peace to your whole being; you are now completely in the stream of life that flows out from the Throne of God. This is the Holy (whole) Spirit poured out upon "all flesh" in the last day. Nothing in the nature of God is now withheld from you and your blessing is complete. *"Blessing"* is the seventh Spirit released from before the Throne of God. "All that the Father hath" is not only yours in fact but in form as well. This is the heavenly state of perfect bliss which all men have been seeking. We have missed it because we have not realized that:

"Heaven is not reached by a single bound,
But we build the ladder by which we rise
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies
And we mount to its summit, round by round."

And these are the same steps by which we descended into form – the seven days of creation. These are also the seven steps in Jacob's ladder upon which he saw the Angels of God descending and ascending. You here complete the journey out from and back to the Father's house. The great consummation of the purpose of life is realized.

> *I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.* REV. 3:15

This state of perfect bliss is not a state of perpetual inertia. There is "rest for a space" but you are now ready to enter into the fulness of life in the Father's house. After a brief rest, you rise to the occasion," warm up to the great *wealth* and *power* of your regained estate.

There is no sitting idly by when all life is flowing at its full tide. Your being (your harp of a thousand strings) must continually vibrate to heavenly harmonies. Your cup of life flows over with blessings too great to be contained; they must be expressed.

> *So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth.* REV. 3:16

Life can harmonize only with you who keep pace with life. Unless you move along with it, you are thrown back into the wheel of existence to "tread the wine-press" again until you learn that life has no ultimate but progress. "Grow or go" is its decree.

> *Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked.* REV. 3:17

It is "hard for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven." It is also hard for him to stay there. You arrived by a complete dependence upon the "Angel of His Presence" and you remain in your high estate by the same

method. Wealth is not in the things but in the "power to get wealth." God alone giveth this power. To separate your inheritance from the giver is to lose both the giver and His gift. Truly when you seem to need nothing, your need is greatest. Now both you and your gift must be sustained if you are to run swiftly the race that is yet before you.

> *I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.* REV. 3:18

> *As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.* REV. 3:19

As in earth, so in Heaven. Power and all the things of God are "given." They may flow through you but see they do not cling to you. There is more to "see" so keep your eyes open. There is so much more in the Father's house and repentance (returning), "seeing" more, is the only way to abide therein. The seven eyes become the single "seeing" sense of the truly

awake. A gentle corrective influence is felt if you get off the path. If your heart does not expand with joy, walk softly and listen for guidance.

> *Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.*
> REV. 3:20

> *To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.* REV. 3:21

In this stage of your progress, the "Presence of God" has become tangible and intimate, the authority of the "Presence" is the sign by which you have conquered and will continue to conquer. This is your degree of Kingship, or where the Lamb of God has become the "Lion of the tribe of Juda." The crown of life is yours.

> *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.*
> REV. 3:22

This is the state of Mastership. Still the instruction following this seal is "let him hear

what the Spirit saith." A Master is not one who has of himself and by his own devices learned to do great miracles in the earth. A Master is one who has so served the law that the law has mastered him. Mastery is the "crown" or power of Principle working through its element.

There is no personal display of power and there is no assuming of mastership over things, people or circumstances. The key *of* mastery is the same as the key *to* mastership. That key is always obedience. It is the law of arrival and the law after you arrive.

It is a mistaken idea to imagine that a master is one who goes about the earth and performs great feats of magic to prove his power over the world of form. A master only follows the rule to prove the power of the rule. Jesus healed the blind, the lame, the unclean, and fed the hungry to prove the Will of God. That the Father may be glorified was his only boast of authority and this authority, he always drew from above. A master is only a perfected servant, one who serves completely and perfectly the procedures outlined in the eternal trend of the Will of God.

And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. REV. 8:1

In the opening of the Seventh Seal, "silence" denotes that period of adjustment necessary in comprehending new things. When you are brought suddenly into the light from a dark room, the eye must accustom itself to the light. When the mind is suddenly confronted with new things, it goes through a process of re-adjustment before it can fully comprehend. In breaking through the Seals of human limitation into the fulness of life in Christ Jesus, a similar adjustment has to be made. No matter how greatly you have measured the grandeur of the Divine Presence, it is not adequate. The only thing you can do, as it bursts upon you, is to "stand still and see the glory of God made manifest." As the mind adjusts itself to the full measure of Divine power and its complete manifestation, you enter into the state of *perfest bliss, or blessing.* You have always had a vague consciousness that something has helped you on in life; now you see it in full operation. Your blessings are beyond measure. It will take time to comprehend them. Nothing but the

activity of the Divine Purpose now touches you for you have become completely obedient to the law of your being.

Work is not complete here for there is no end of service that can be rendered to those less fortunate than yourself. But no one can give you information as to your work at this point. All direction continues to come from the "Angel of His Presence." But the Will of God works through you to do that which is to be done by you.

MEDITATION

"OBEDIENT TO THE VOICE OF HIS PRESENCE, I ENTER INTO THE FINISHED PERFECTION WHERE HEALTH AND ABUNDANCE FLOW CEASELESSLY WITH THE STREAM OF LIFE FLOWING THROUGH ME FROM THE HEART OF GOD."

Lesson Nine

THE ILLUMINATION

REVELATION

Chapter 21

AND I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

2 *And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*

3 *And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

4 *And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*

5 *And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.*

6 *And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.*

7 *He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.*

8 *But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake that burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.*

9 *And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.*

10 *And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain,*

and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.

11 *Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jaspar stone, clear as crystal.*

12 *And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel.*

13 *On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.*

14 *And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.*

15 *And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof.*

16 *And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the*

reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breath and the height of it are equal.

17 *And he measured the wall thereof, a hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel.*

18 *And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass.*

19 *And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald.*

20 *The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolyte; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tent, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst.*

21 *And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.*

22 *And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.*

23 *And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.*

24 *And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.*

25 *And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.*

26 *And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.*

27 *And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.*

HAVING FOLLOWED faithfully the seven steps to attainment, you are now ready to consider that state of being for which you have prepared yourself. It will be impossible in the course of one lesson to adequately describe this state, but enough can be given to furnish a basis for your own speculation. Chapters 21 and 22 of the Book of Revelation embody a rather complete explanation of that manner of life within the Kingdom prepared for those who "keep" (live) the words of this prophecy. In our study of these two chapters, we will only refer to verses when it seems expedient, for many of the points are repeated and scattered throughout the text.

The first point to be noticed is that everything in this state is new. This is the true state of life for life is growth. Growth is always new and perpetual unfoldment is perpetual youth. One is here so attuned to the flow and progress of life that there is no carrying over into today the experiences of yesterday. Today is too full of radiance to admit of speculation regarding tomorrow. The fullest expression of life is in that time and place designated at the moment.

The great value of the present can only be realized when all your being is intent upon the *present moment.* Here and now is the fulness of life. With no thought of past or future, there is nothing to hinder the full expression of life as it flows from God through you. There is no cause for sorrow, pain, or death. These former states have all passed into oblivion for they have no part in the fulness of life in Christ.

The various twelves throughout the twenty-first Chapter refer to the great centralization and unifying of forces that has taken place in this great consummation of life. Every sense of the various diversified aspects of life are merged into one single structure. That which previously seemed departments of mind or body has vanished. Even the sense of mind and body as separate from spirit has gone. Radiant being is the most adequate expression of this glorious state.

The measure of this city or state of being is given in Chapter 21, Verse 17 as the measure of the man – "that is, of the angel" – the entire outer man completely merged with the inner man. This is the complete return to the Father's house.

In other words, this is the state where you are functioning in your completeness. You have arrived at the fulfillment of the image and likeness in which you were created. "The city that lieth four square" is the fourth dimensional man, the complete man. There is no correct estimate of the magnitude of man as a three dimensional being. In the beginning of these lessons, we learned he is only a channel. The mind, the emotion and flesh are incapable of originating any action within themselves. They only act as they are acted upon. All primal action is within the Soul (Angel of His Presence) for it has within it the fulness of the Godhead. It is the embodiment of the Holy Spirit, the complete and concentrated activity of the entire nature of the Infinite God. It is this "Lord God" that has projected the outer man and his only source of creative power is from his immediate Creator. It is this missing dimension that accounts for all your previous weakness. But now you are joined to the originating side of your nature and there is complete support for the outer self. This is the Divine Marriage.

Naturally, there is no temple of worship when you have reached this state of illumi-

nation. You are in the Church of Christ and you are enshrined in the very presence of God. This is where you realize the mystery of your life being "hid with Christ in God." God and Christ are your conscious dwelling place.

The element in an incandescent bulb becomes luminous when connected with a current of electricity. In like manner, every element becomes luminous or animate after its own manner when joined to its principle. In this final stage of your progress, you become radiant with the Light of His Countenance. This is the white garment previously referred to and it is from this fact that the illumined are called the White Brotherhood. This Brotherhood and the Church of Christ are one and the same and in the strict sense this is the Divinely ordained Church. You have not joined anything in the process, as we usually think of joining something. You have risen or grown into it.

The "nations of them which are saved" refers to every element of the outer man that has come into subjection to the ruling authority of the Angel of His Presence. At this stage, you will realize that this redemption has embraced everything of your past. None of that which

the Father gave has been lost. By the same process that evil is always converted into good, so all your former life is converted into a spiritual profit. Even the world now pays you homage. Whatever supply or substance in the earth or Heavens is needed – it is at your command. All of the wealth of the Father is yours when you have returned to His house. The ceaseless flow of Good has been opened through your nature. The gates of this state are always open.

REVELATION

Chapter 22

AND he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

2 *In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.*

3 *And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the*

Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him.

4 *And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.*

5 *And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.*

6 *And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the Holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.*

7 *Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.*

8 *And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things.*

9 *Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and*

of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.

10 *And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.*

11 *He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.*

12 *And behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.*

13 *I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.*

14 *Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.*

15 *For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.*

16 *I Jesus have sent my angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.*

17 *And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.*

18 *For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book.*

19 *And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*

20 *He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly: Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.*

21 *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.*

The pure river of life in Chapter 22 is the Holy Spirit, the complete activity of God. It is the POWER, RICHES, WISDOM, STRENGTH, HONOR, GLORY and BLESSING of God flowing as a single uninterrupted stream from God and through you. This water of life brings the outer man to life in the true sense of life; he becomes truly fruitful. Since the outer man is the product of the inner, the inner man is the river of life and the outer man the tree, or product of life.

Every man's name or nature is written in his forehead. Your expression always betrays the kind of thought and feeling flowing through you. When you have seen God face to face, a new kind of force flows through you and your nature is changed. This new nature shines from your countenance as the radiance (name) of your God. He whom you have served becomes your nature and that nature is self evident. This is your Eternal name. The presence of God and the realm of limitless powers become as tangible as your former world of form. But this blessing is only for the "Keepers of the Word."

Here you find that all the time you have

seemed to worship or draw all of your power from the Angel of His Presence. Now you discover all the power in Christ, the Divine Self, is of God; that no original power is vested even in Christ. All the power of Jesus was in Christ and the power in Christ was the power of God. In Heaven or in earth, power is a bestowal and comes from the Father, Creator.

The caution about taking away or adding to the words of this prophecy is only a continuation of the foregoing secret of power. A failure to keep abreast of the Universal trend is to lose contact with power. To forge ahead of it or to work independently of it also breaks the contact. Individual power persists only so long as you keep a perfect balance with the normal progress of Spiritual Power flowing through you. You remain forever the inlet and outlet for all there is in the Infinite nature of the God Universal. "Surely I come quickly." You cannot hurry or delay the Divine Process. Keep abreast of its movements, ride the tides of Creative Power and you shall be established among the sons of men as the Son of God.

THE GRACE
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
BE WITH YOU ALL.
AMEN.

(REV. 22:21)

WELLS OF ABUNDANCE

by E. V. INGRAHAM

Author, LADDER TO THE SKY

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